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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

NISHIO et al.

Art Unit: 3621

Application No.: 09/037,916

Examiner: F. Backer

Filed: March 10, 1998

Atty. Dkt. No.: 108287-08002

For: ELECTRONIC PURSE SYSTEM HAVING A DOUBLE-STRUCTURED PURSE, IC CARD APPLICABLE TO THE ELECTRONIC PURSE SYSTEM, IC CARD TRANSACTION APPARATUS HAVING A DOUBLE-STRUCTURED PURSE, IC CARD TRANSACTION SYSTEM HAVING A DOUBLE-STRUCTURED PURSE, AND IC CARD APPLICABLE TO THE IC CARD SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

MAY 27 2003

May 16, 2003

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated November 18, 2002, the time period for responding being extended to May 18, 2003 by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, and prior to examination of the attached Request for Continued Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 13, 14, 20, 21, 24, 25-27 and 29 as follows. A marked-up version of the amended claims is enclosed as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

13. (Four Times Amended) An electronic purse system having a double-structured purse comprising:
~~an IC card;~~